THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No. Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Projects

3193. SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE :
SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Railways hit by twin crunch" as reported in 'Statesman' dated July 5, 1996;

(b) whether due to hike in prices of petroleum products and power tariff by the State Electricity Boards, the various projects of Railways have been affected; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). As the necessary budget provision on account of hike in cost of fuel already exists, any adverse effect on the various Railways projects included in the Railway Budget for 1996-97 is unlikely.

Cattle Human Ratio

3194. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is constant depletion in the cattle wealth of the country with cattle human ratio coming down from 430 per thousand humans in 1951 to 278 in 1981 and is likely to reach 20 per thousand humans, if unchecked, by the year 2001.

(b) if so, the main reasons for the decline; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There is no depletion in cattle wealth. However the ratio of cattle and human population compared to cattle population.

(b) and (c). Does not arise as there is no decline is cattle population.

Higher Administrative Grade Posts in Railways

3195. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes officers denied promotions in the Higher Administrtive Grade due to the left over one year service condition and non fulfilling of the laid down bench marks; and

(b) the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Out of 52 officers not empanelled for Grade Rs. 7,300 - 7,600/- in 1995-96, 5 were belonging to SC/ST communities.

(b) Does not arise there is no reservation for SC/ST communities in promotion to Grade Rs.7,300-7,600/- and such eligibility conditions and criteria of performance uniformly apply to all.

[Translation]

Licence for Slaughtering Animals

3196. SHRI KRISHAN LAL DILER : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued licence for slaughtering animals to Agro India Factory at Chherat in Aligarh district, Uttar Pradesh which would cause pollution and dangerous diseases in the district;

(b) whether the Government have received protests against it;

(c) if so, whether the Government have decided to cancel the licence of the said factory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Slaughtering of animals is permitted by the State Government under the state laws. M/s. Hind Agro Industries Limited a joint venture project with Uttar Pradesh Pashudhan Udyog Nigam Limited and the Pradeshiya Industrial and Investment Corporation of Uttar Pradesh Limited were given approval by Secretariat for Industrial Approval for setting up of 100 per cent export oriented unit at Chherat in Aligarh district.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). In view of (a) above question does not arise.

Vehicles Challaned in Delhi

3197. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vehicles challaned in Delhi during the last two years;

(b) the total revenue received from these challans; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred in towing away the vehincles duirng last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is given below :

Year	Number of vechicles challaned	Compounding fee realised
1994	14,03,533	Rs. 12,18,44,774
1995	13,28,300	Rs. 11,11,50,200

(c) Information is being collected.

[English]

Floriculture Centre

3198. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for sanction of a model floriculture centre at Hyderabad in view of a large number of foreign collaborations for floriculture in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India has sanctioned setting up of a Model Floriculture Centre in the State of Andhra Pradesh at a total cost of Rs. 57.50 lakhs, under the Central Secror Scheme on commercial Floriculture. The Centre would serve as the focal unit for floriculture development in the state and will undertake collection, multiplication and distribution of quality planting material of improved varieties; laying out demonstrations on new technologies and training of farmers/entrepreneur on various aspects related to production and post harvest management of flower crops.

Conversion into Broad-Gauge Lines

3199. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to consider the conversion of Hospet-Guntakal Metre Gauge railway line into Broad Gauge during the next two years;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the expected time by which the said line would be converted into Broad Gauge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The doubling of Guntakal-Hospet section, by conversion of the existing metre gauge line, has been included in the Budget, 1996-97.

(b) Rs. 105.77 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The work is likely to be completed in the Ninth Plan period.

[Translation]

Use of Insecticides

3200. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the excessive use of insecticide results in the loss of resistance power of the human beings;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to ban the excessive use of insecticides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some National and International studies have revealed possible linkage between exposure to pesticides and the immune system in human being thereby decreasing resistance potential.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. To decrease dependence on excessive use of pesticides, the Government is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for control of crop-pests. IPM approach relies on exploitation of natural biocontrol potential having blend of non-chemical approaches viz., cultural mechanical, use of botanicals like neem-based pesticides and biocides. This eco-friendly IPM programme is being taken up at an cutlay of Rs. 45 crores during the VIII Plan period. So far 12,245 Agriculture Extension Officers and 77,556 farmers have acquired IPM skill resulting in decreasing pesticide use trend in the country.

Disruption on Rail Route

3201. SHRI DINESH CHAND YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rail services were disrupted on Nairmali-Bhaptipahi rail route due to the damage caused by the floods in the Kosi river during 1944;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme for its reconstruction;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;